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FOR HENoch

FOLLOWING TAIPEI 7361 SENT ACTION SECSTATE NOV. 3; REPEATED
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TAGS: PFOR, MNUC, TW

SUBJECT: ROC'S NUCLEAR INTENTIONS

REF: TAIPEI 7306

1. ON 23 OCTOBER 1976, CH'EN SZU-LIANG, CHAIRMAN OF THE
ROC ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION (CAEC), MADE A STATEMENT TO
THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE YUAN OUTLINING
THE PURPOSE OF THE ROC NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAM. LI YU-HAO,
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY RESEARCH
(INER), ALSO MADE A PRESENTATION. ACCORDING TO VICTOR
CHENG, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CAEC, THIS WAS THE FIRST
TIME SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1968 THAT A DIRECTOR OF INER
HAS MADE A PUBLIC PRESENTATION TO THE LEGISLATIVE YUAN.

2. FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF AN ARTICLE PUBLISHED
IN THE UNITED DAILY NEWS ON 24 OCTOBER 1976, BASED ON THE
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ABOVE MENTIONED STATEMENTS. THE ARTICLE WAS TITLED

"CONSIDERABLE FOUNDATION IN THE ROC FOR PEACEFUL USE OF ATOMIC ENERGY; INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY RESEARCH WILL DO RESEARCH", AND WAS NOT PUBLISHED IN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS:

A. BEGIN TEXT: CHAIRMAN CH'EN SZU-LIANG OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION OF THE EXECUTIVE YUAN SAID YESTERDAY THE ROC HAS LAID A RELATIVELY SOLID FOUNDATION IN THE PEACEFUL USE OF ATOMIC ENERGY. IT HAS BEEN ABLE TO ACQUIRE INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO PROCEED SMOOTHLY MAINLY BECAUSE IT CHARTED THE DIRECTION OF NUCLEAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT MANY YEARS AGO, MADE IT KNOWN TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD AND HAS ACCEPTED INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARD INSPECTIONS.

B. CHAIRMAN CH'EN WAS PRESENT AT THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE YUAN TO REPORT ON ATOMIC ENERGY OPERATIONS HIS COMMISSION HAS CHARGE OF. HE POINTED OUT THAT HIS COMMISSION HAS BEEN MAKING EFFORTS TO ACTIVELY PLAN THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF ATOMIC SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, COMPILE RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING ATOMIC ENERGY, AND MAINTAIN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND LIAISON IN REGARD TO ATOMIC ENERGY. THE MAIN PURPOSE IS TO PROMOTE RESEARCH OF ATOMIC SCIENCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE USE OF ATOMIC ENERGY TO MEET NATIONAL DEMANDS SO AS TO IMPROVE NATIONAL STRENGTH AND TO ELEVATE THE WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE.

C. CH'EN SZU-LIANG SAID THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED TO SET UP AN INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY RESEARCH RESPONSIBLE FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ON ISSUES RELATED TO THE NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE. SINCE POWER GENERATION IS MOST IMPORTANT IN THE PEACEFUL USE OF ATOMIC ENERGY, UNDER THE ROC POLICY TO DIVERSIFY ITS ENERGY SOURCES, THE COMMISSION DECIDED TO PROMOTE AN ATOMIC ENERGY PROGRAM WHICH IS TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM THE ORDINARY USE OF THERMO POWER PLANTS. IN ADDITION TO THE TECHNICAL PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN ATOMIC ENERGY POWER GENERATION THAT BELONG TO THE POWER PLANT ITSELF, THERE HAS TO BE AN OVERALL CONSIDERATION ON SUCH ISSUES AS THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TYPE OF REACTORS, NUCLEAR SAFETY, THE SELECTION OF THE PLANT SITE, FUEL SUPPLY AND THE DISPOSAL OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES. THEREFORE, AN INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY RESEARCH WAS ESTABLISHED.

D. ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY RESEARCH LI YU-HAO, IN HIS REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE, SAID THE SPECIAL NUCLEAR ENERGY RESEARCH PROGRAM IS CON-

DUCTED IN CONCERT WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PEACEFUL USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY IN THE ROC. THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AT PRESENT IS FOCUSED ON HEAVY-WATER REACTORS WITH A PRIMARY OBJECTIVE TO DEVELOP NUCLEAR FUEL TECHNIQUES AND TO BUILD REACTORS FOR POWER GENERATION OURSELVES. MEANWHILE, BASIC RESEARCH ON NUCLEAR ENERGY IS MADE SO AS TO LAY A SOLID FOUNDATION FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THIS COUNTRY.

E. DIRECTOR LI SAID THE HEAVY-WATER TYPE REACTOR HAS BEEN RUNNING SMOOTHLY SINCE ITS INSTALLATION WAS COMPLETED. WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO TACKLE ALL THE TECHNICAL PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS BY OUR OWN EFFORT. A MAJOR INSPECTION AND OVERHAUL AFTER THREE YEARS OPERATION WAS DONE IN THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR AND JOINT STUDIES WERE MADE WITH LOCAL MANUFACTURERS TO USE LOCAL-MADE SPARE PARTS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE SO AS TO ELEVATE THE DOMESTIC INDUSTRIAL LEVEL AND REDUCE RELIANCE ON OTHER COUNTRIES.

F. HE POINTED OUT THAT IN ADDITION TO PRODUCING LARGE QUANTITY OF ISOTOPES TO BE USED IN AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY, AND MEDICINE, THE MAIN FUNCTION OF THE REACTOR IS TO TEST NUCLEAR FUEL AND MATERIAL. RELATED FACILITIES THAT HAVE BEEN MADE THROUGH OUR OWN EFFORT INCLUDE FAST NEUTRON CHOPPER, HYDRAULIC RABBIT, NEUTRON RADIOGRAPH FACILITY, DELAY NEUTRON SPECTROMETER AND REACTOR NOISE ANALYZER. END TEXT. POPPLE UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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